

Message Text

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47

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

OMB-01 SCCT-01 SSM-03 IO-13 ACDA-07 /083 W

----- 090165

R 311500Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5449

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT BY POUCH

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SA, LE

SUBJECT: PLO LEADER MEETS WITH SAUDI FOREIGN MINISTER

1. PLO CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER KHALID AL-HASSAN MET WITH SAUDI FOREIGN MINISTER PRINCE SAUDI AL-FAISAL IN TAIF ON JULY 29 AND 30. ON JULY 30 THE NEWSPAPER "AL MADINA" PUBLISHED AN INTERVIEW WITH AL-HASSAN IN WHICH HE SAID HIS TALKS WITH PRINCE SAUD WERE AIMED AT INSURING THE SUCCESS OF THE PALESTINIAN-SYRIAN AGREEMENT, BRINGING ABOUT A CEASEFIRE IN LEBANON AND GETTING DIALOGUE STARTED AMONGST THE WARRING FACTIONS THERE.

2. AL-HASSAN SAID THAT HIS VISIT WAS PART OF AN EFFORT BEING MADE THROUGHOUT THE ARAB WORLD TO BRING AN END TO THE HORRIBLE MASSACRES BEING COMMITTED IN LEBANON. HE PRAISED SAUDI ARABIAN EFFORTS TO STOP THE DESTRUCTION OF LEBANON IN COOPERATION WITH EGYPTIAN AND KUWAITI EFFORTS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE ARAB LEAGUE.

3. COMMENT: KHALID AL-HASSAN IS FREQUENTLY IN SAUDI

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ARABIA TO MEET WITH SAUDI LEADERS AND HE APPEARS TO BE

ONE OF THEIR FAVORITE PALESTINIAN INTERLOCUTORS. WHILE THE PRESS GENERALLY NOTES HIS PRESENCE IN THE KINGDOM AND THE FACT THAT HE IS MEETING WITH SAUDI LEADERS, IT IS RARE THAT THERE IS ANY HINT OF THE TOPIC OF HIS CONVERSATIONS. THE SOMEWHAT UNUSUAL PUBLICITY GIVEN TO KHALID AL-HASSAN'S TALKS ON THIS OCCASION COULD REFLECT A SAG DESIRE TO UNDERLINE ONCE AGAIN CONCERN ABOUT THE EFFECT OF THE LEBANESE FIGHTING ON ARAB UNITY. PORTER

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To: STATE
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